RELIGIOUS COMMUNITIES ORGANISATION ORDINANCE, No. 19 OF 1926.

The sixteenth day of April, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-six.

GOVERNMENT OF PALESTINE.

RELIGIOUE COMMUNITIES ORGANISATION ORDINANCE.

No. 19 of 1926.

WHEREAS it is provided in Article 83 of the Palestine Order in Council, 1922, that each Religious Community recognised by the Government shall enjoy autonomy for the internal affairs of the Community, subject to the provisions of any Ordinance or Order issued by the High Commissioner.

BE IT ENACTED by the High Commissioner for Palestine, with the advice of the Advisory Council thereof:-

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Religious Communities Organisation Ordinance, 1926. Short title.

2. (1) If any Religious Community in Palestine makes application under this Ordinance, the High Commissioner in Executive Council may, with the approval of one of His Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, make, and, when made, vary or revoke regulations for its organisation as a religious community and its recognition as such by the Government of Palestine. Powers to issue regulations for organisation of a Community.

Separate regulations shall be made in each case, suited to the special circumstances and organisation of the Community concerned.

(2) Any such Regulations may provide for the constitution of religious and cultural Councils or Boards of the Community which shall have capacity to acquire and hold immovable and movable property of every description, to enter into contracts, to execute any deeds, and to sue and be sued under the titles granted to them.

(3) Any such Regulations may bestow upon the said Councils or Boards power to impose upon members of the Community contributions or fees for communal purposes which shall be recoverable in the same way as municipal taxes and fees.

3. Any Regulations made under this Ordinance may provide that any Ottoman Decree or Regulation relating to matters falling under this Ordinance shall cease to have effect in Palestine. Regulations issued under Ordinance to supersede Ottoman regulations.

PLUMER, F. M.
High Commissioner.

16th. April, 1926.

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